

Jobless Rate Drops for Sixth Straight Month...

BUT STILL MORE WORK TO DO

One of my top priorities for this legislative session includes creating more high-quality jobs and protecting small businesses. Here's how:

- Expand the definition of a 'small business' from 50 to 100 employees to make thousands of additional Connecticut businesses eligible for loans and assistance;
- Provide help to post 9/11 combat veterans returning from overseas find work by expanding grants to small businesses who train our soldiers for new careers; and,
- Strengthen local manufacturing by creating a "Connecticut Made" campaign.

Programs that could benefit you or someone you know:

- **Job Expansion Tax Credits** for small businesses
- **Small Business Express Package** to get funding for your small business

Learn more at www.senatedems.ct.gov/GrowJobs
and www.decd.org.



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State Senator
JOE CRISCO

SPOTLIGHT ON **ANSONIA**



Discussing the future of our vo-tech schools with Laurie LeBouthillier, principal of Emmett O'Brien Technical High School in Ansonia.



Please share or recycle when done.

A Healthier Emmett O'Brien Vo-Tech School

I am pleased to report that funding to rebuild the heating system at Emmett O'Brien has been made available so that our students can pursue their education in a healthy environment.

Valley Fire Training School

I am delighted that state funds to rebuild a Naugatuck Valley Regional Fire Training School have been included in the governor's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2013. This funding represents an investment in public safety by ensuring the preparedness of regional fire departments and also by serving as an important recruitment tool for future firefighters. The new home of the regional facility is to be located in Beacon Falls on a parcel of land made available through funds I helped to secure in 2010. It will replace the former site in Derby, which was closed more than 10 years ago.

Brigadier General Brian F. Phipps Memorial Bridge

Honoring the Memory of One of Ansonia's Notable Residents

Brigadier General Brian F. Phipps was a distinguished Ansonia resident. A decorated war hero who served two tours of duty in Vietnam, he earned a Bronze Star for bravery as well as other medals of commendation. He served as Ansonia's police commissioner and Pop Warner football coach. I was therefore proud to propose legislation naming the Hull Street bridge over Route 8 the "Brigadier General Brian F. Phipps Memorial Bridge" and was honored to present the Phipps family with a commemorative plaque at the bridge-naming ceremony.